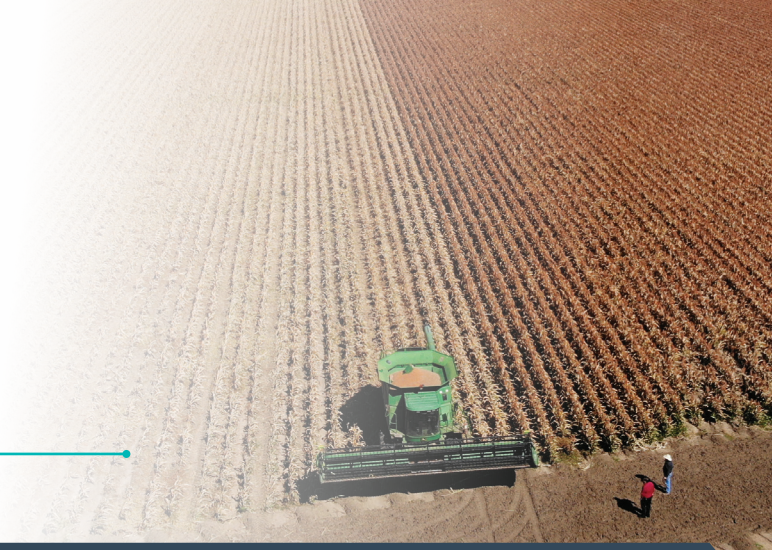
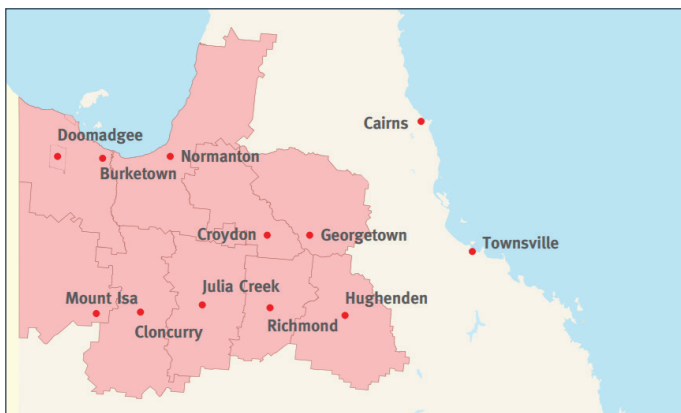


# A Strategic Blueprint for Queensland's North West Minerals Province and the North West Queensland Economic Diversification Strategy

PROGRESS REPORT



Driving long-term sustainability and regional growth in North West Queensland.



Actions of the blueprint and NWQEDS focus on 10 Local Government Areas in North West Queensland. These are: Mount Isa City, Cloncurry Shire, Burke Shire, Doomadgee Aboriginal Shire, Carpentaria Shire, McKinlay Shire, Croydon Shire, Etheridge Shire, Richmond Shire and Flinders Shire.

**The Queensland Government is committed to developing the abundant potential of the state's North West Minerals Province and broader North West Queensland region.**

The Queensland Government's 2017, \$39 million A Strategic Blueprint for Queensland's North West Minerals Province (the blueprint) and the 2019, \$33.3 million North West Queensland Economic Diversification Strategy (NWQEDS) set a clear path to harness the region's strengths across resources, agriculture, tourism, business and industry; driving investment and jobs growth and ultimately building a sustainable and thriving regional economy.

## Unite & Recover

North West Queensland is playing an important role in the state's post COVID economy by supplying commodities to fuel Queensland's expanding manufacturing sector and secure critical supply chains. The blueprint and NWQEDS support the state's economic recovery by attracting private investment and capitalising on the region's global reputation for minerals. I look forward to working with industry to seek and deliver opportunities that strengthen our economy and deliver jobs for Queenslanders.

**The Honourable Steven Miles MP**  
**DEPUTY PREMIER and MINISTER FOR STATE DEVELOPMENT**



Queensland  
Government

## Driving long-term sustainability and regional growth in North West Queensland

A Strategic Blueprint for Queensland's North West Minerals Province and the North West Queensland Economic Diversification Strategy



Since 2017, *A Strategic Blueprint for Queensland's North West Minerals Province and the North West Queensland Economic Diversification Strategy* have facilitated approximately \$2.3 billion in capital investment, delivering 1700 ongoing jobs. Through this work a further pipeline of projects, valued at approximately \$6.3 billion has been identified. If realised, this pipeline has the potential to support 950 operational jobs across the region.

### Achievements

- \$14.1 million to define new economy mineral opportunities. This investment includes the \$13.8 million New Economy Minerals Initiative targeting exploration, extraction and value-adding opportunities through partnerships with industry and research institutions.
- Providing a world-leading geoscientific data repository to help explorers find the next generation large mineral deposits through the Geological Survey of Queensland Open Data Portal.
- Deeper geological surveys to give industry the greatest chance of exploration success.
- Helping to extend the life of existing operations and improve the environmental outcomes of legacy mines through the Low-Grade Minerals Processing Report, which assists miners to pursue 'secondary prospectivity' of low-grade ores and tailings.
- \$2.7 million in collaborative mineral exploration grants, supporting 23 projects, one of which resulted in the discovery of a globally significant copper cobalt deposit at Walford Creek, north of Mount Isa.
- Reduced barriers to investment through streamlining land access agreements and cultural heritage approvals.
- Creating approximately 100 high tech jobs through a \$14.5 million investment in Cloncurry's Queensland Flight Test Range drone test facility.
- \$1.28 million in trials to demonstrate the viability of high value cash and fodder crops that lead to new industry investment.
- A digital visitor survey that provides regionally specific insights into tourism visitation patterns and new market opportunities.
- \$1.77 million in direct support for 16 key local government tourism projects, enhanced signage and a comprehensive marketing campaign to attract families and short-stay visitors.
- An industry-led training pilot in partnership with Commerce North West, Mount Isa hospitality businesses and three school-aged participants. There are now plans to extend the program to other industries and locations.
- \$1.65 million to drive economic development planning, business competitiveness and stronger communities.
- Assisting 50 Indigenous candidates secure work through the Youth Employment Program. Support for the development of the Jemena Northern Gas Pipeline through facilitating local supply chain opportunities and indigenous apprenticeships.
- An investment of approximately \$500 million over five years to boost mineral freight exports on the Mount Isa rail line, through ongoing maintenance and track improvements, discounted freight charges and support for a new container terminal at the Port of Townsville.